Ayumi Kano

Seaview

海の見える屋根

e.g:one

June Yaoi Manga

Ayumi Kano

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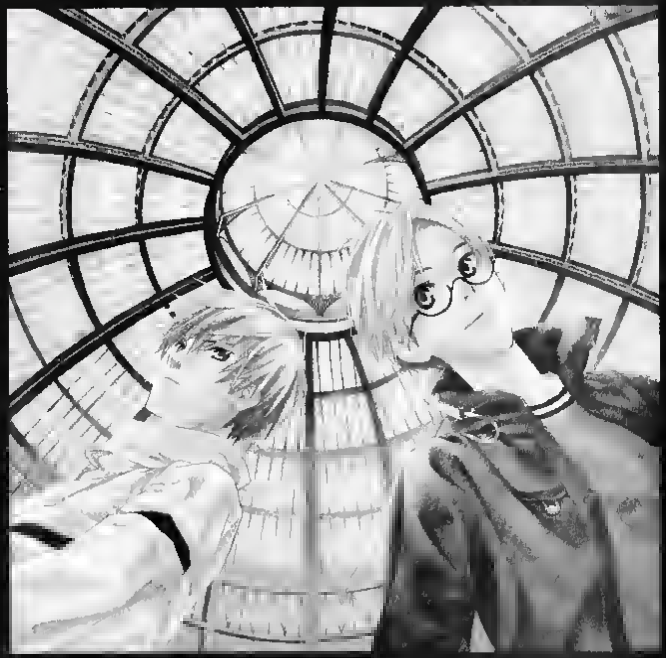
June



SEA VIEW
海の見える屋根

A SEA VIEW
SCENE: 1

SEA VIEW
海の見える屋根

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YOU GET TO SHARE ROOM 305 WITH MICHIRU BANG!!
WELL, IT'S DECIDED
PARDON ME...
CLATTER
HOPE YOU SURVIVE!
WHAAAT?!
LUCKY YOU!
WHOA!
MESSY

HEY, TSUWABUKI!
KEI TSUWABUKI!!!
GO!
GO!
GO!
ONE MORE TIME GO!
DU-DON!
ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS!

HERE'S YOUR COFFEE!
THE MIXING RATIO FOR WALL CONCRETE IS 3.5:1 WITH WATER BEING,
Y-YES, BOSS.
BANGI-KUN!
SHAKE
SHAKE
E-BANGI-KUN?
?
HE NOW REALIZES WHY NO ONE WANTED TO BE IN HERE
BUT THE ONLY DESCRIPTIONS I'VE HEARD FROM OTHERS WERE
I'VE BEEN WONDERING WHAT KIND OF AMAZING STUDENT HE WAS.
I'VE HEARD THAT HE GOT INTO THIS SCHOOL AT THE HEAD OF OUR CLASS.

KEI.
TSUWABUKI
B-BANGI-KUN! YOUR COFFEE! YOUR COFFEE!
IT'S SPILLING ON YOUR MODEL!
UNSOCIABLE! UNRESPONSIVE! ALOOF!
...ALL VERY UNFLATTERING RUMORS.

RUSTLE
BUSH
OH A PERSON!

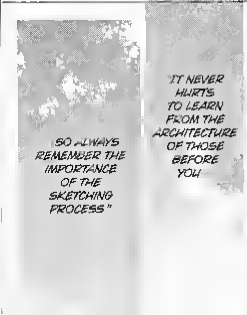
NEAR DEATH
GET ME... COFFEE...
...PLEASE...

WHY DOES HE HAVE ALL THIS STUFF HERE ALREADY?
THIS WAS MY FIRST MEETING WITH THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE'S NUMBER ONE ECCENTRIC -
INCHIKU BANGI

EVER SINCE I PARTED FROM YOU WHEN I WAS YOUNG...
...YOU'VE ALWAYS SENT ME A LETTER ONCE A YEAR
I'VE FINALLY MADE IT HERE, GRANDFATHER.
TO THIS ISLAND
TO THIS SCHOOL, WHERE YOU TAUGHT ARCHITECTURE
AND THIS LETTER IS THE FOURTEENTH.
HEY, TSUWABUKI! SO, HOW IS HE?
HE'S ACTUALLY PRETTY NORMAL.
THAT BANGS GUY.
INSIDE IS ALWAYS THE BRIEFEST OF LETTERS -
AND A CONSTRUCTION PLAN
YOU, AT THE BACK!
NO TALKING.
A COPY OF A BLUE-PRINT
A SIGN THAT YOU TOO, GRANDFATHER POSSESS THE SAME PAGE I HOLD IN MY HANDS.
BY THE WAY, AN ARCHITECT WHOSE NAME YOU MIGHT ALL BE AWARE OF-

HOW DOES HE KNOW MY NAME...?
...HUH?
A MINUTE AGO.
...WHEN YOU RAN OUT... IT FELL.
TO: KEI TSUWABUKI
TOKYO-TO DAI HIGASHI-KU
TH-
THANK YOU! THIS IS REALLY PRECIOUS TO ME!
PRECIOUS...?
"UNSOCIABLE"? "UNRESPONSIVE"? "ALOOF"?
YEAH.
IT'S FROM MY GRANDFATHER.
RUMORS AREN'T VERY RELIABLE ARE THEY?

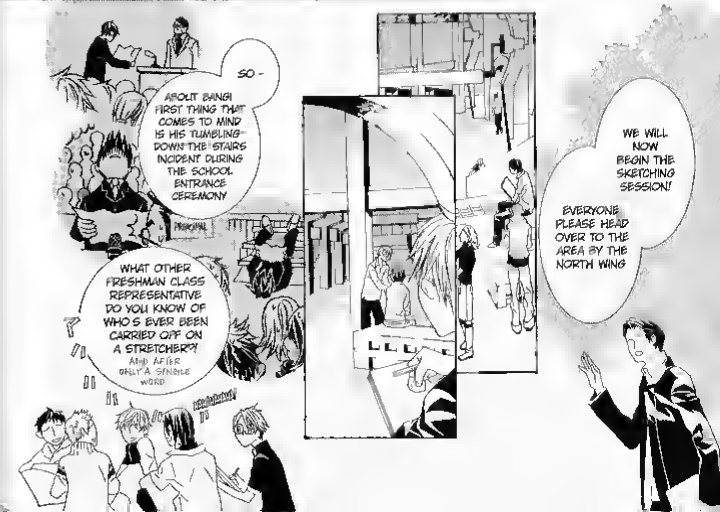
CATCH THEM!
BA...
ぴらぴら
ぴらぴら
おおおお
HA -
E-BANG! BANG! YOUR BINDER!
IT'S OPEN!


"SO ALWAYS REMEMBER THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SKETCHING PROCESS"

"IT NEVER HURTS TO LEARN FROM THE ARCHITECTURE OF THOSE BEFORE YOU"

HE'S NOT LISTENING.
SORRY! SORRY! WE WON'T TALK BEHIND YOUR BACK ANYMORE!

I WANTED TO HURRY AND SEE YOU
THAT'S WHY I CAME TO THIS ISLAND
PROFESSOR HARA USED TO TEACH AT THIS SCHOOL.


SO -
ABOUT BANG! FIRST THING THAT COMES TO MIND IS HIS TUMBLING-DOWN-THE-STAIRS INCIDENT DURING THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE CEREMONY
PRINCIPAL
WHAT OTHER FRESHMAN CLASS REPRESENTATIVE DO YOU KNOW OF WHO'S EVER BEEN CARRIED OFF ON A STRETCHER?
AND AFTER ONLY A SINGLE WORD
WE WILL NOW BEGIN THE SKETCHING SESSION!
EVERYONE PLEASE HEAD OVER TO THE AREA BY THE NORTH WING

COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM AROUND LATELY.
HE USED TO GO OUT SO OFTEN, TO SEE THE TEMPLES AND SHRINES AND WHY NOT.
HE'S MY GRANDFATHER.
I NEVER KNEW HARA-SAN HAD A GRANDSON LIKE YOU!
HEY!
I'M GONNA BORROW A BUCKET
UM, SO...?
O-OH... SURE

WELL... THE MORE GREAT WORK YOU SEE...
...THE MORE YOU LEARN...
MY GRANDFATHER WAS AN ARCHITECT TOO
HE USED TO TRAVEL A LOT TO DO HIS SKETCHES.
GRANDFATHER'S LETTERS ARE ALWAYS SO ABSURDLY SHORT THAT I REMEMBER EACH AND EVERY WORD
THEY'RE JUST GENERAL STATEMENTS AND ORDINARY, COMMON-SENSE ADVICE BUT...

WHENEVER I MEET SOMEONE WHO THINKS LIKE MY GRANDFATHER DOES...
...IT MAKES ME SO HAPPY
YOU'RE RIGHT

ARE YOU A RELATIVE OF HIS?
OH, YOU MEAN THAT CONSTRUCTION GUY.
TATSUMI HARA...?

DRAFTING ROOM
...
I'VE STILL GOT TO WORK, SO.
HE'S FROM A FAMILY OF FISHERMEN
OH! RIGHT.
SEE YOU TOMORROW!
HEY, DO YOU KNOW ANYONE...
HOW UNEXPECTED
SO HE'S ORIGINALLY FROM THIS ISLAND THEN
...NAMED "TATSUMI HARA"?

WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING
SORRY, WE CAN'T HELP YOU!
HUH?
BUT -
HUH?
SO -
...?
I DON'T WANNA HEAR NOTHIN' ABOUT NO SCHOOL
BUT DAD
OH... I'M A CLASSMATE OF RANGI-KUN'S AT THE SCHOOL.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
SCHOOL?
C'MERE AND GIVE ME A HAND!
MICHIRU!

WOW HE REALLY IDOLIZES "TATSUMI HARA"
I HAVEN'T SORTED EVERYTHING OUT YET... BUT...
I COULD NEVER EQUAL HIM
I ADMIRE HIM
THIS IS AN OLD ONE
THAT ONE'S MORE RECENT
YOU SEE, TATSUMI HARA IS MY GRANDFATHER.

YEAH

ON JAPAN CULTURAL DESIGN AWARD IN 1967. AFTER WHICH HE WAS INVITED TO TEACH AS A PROFESSOR AT H UNIVERSITY'S ARCHITECTURAL SCHOOL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT. RETIRED IN THE YEAR 2000 WENT ON TO CONTINUE RESEARCHING THE EFFECTS OF ARCHITECTURE ON THE ENVI
BORN 1930. GRADUATED FROM "T" UNIVERSITY ARCHITECTURAL SCHOOL IN 1953. DEVOTES HIMSELF TO THE RESEARCH AND STUDY OF THE PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL AND HISTORIC PROPERTIES. BASES HIS DESIGN ON THE PHILOSOPHY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT IN METROPOLITAN ARCHITECTURE.
REALLY ?!
THEN DOES THAT MEAN HE LIVES AROUND -
HE IS A GREAT OBSERVER OF PEOPLE.
WHILE STILL MAXIMIZING THE USE OF NATURE, HIS DESIGNS NEVERTHELESS SEEK TO INCORPORATE THE REALITY OF FUNCTION INTO DAILY LIFE
HMM...
SINCE IZUMI'S A LOCAL I THOUGHT HE MIGHT'VE AT LEAST SEEN MY GRANDFATHER ONCE OR TWICE
OH... HE MEANT HE'S HE RD OF "TATSUMI HARA, THE ARCHITECT."

TSUWABUKI
WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR?
I CAME...
...TO FIND MY GRANDFATHER
ONE DAY, HIS LETTERS WHICH ALWAYS ARRIVED REGULARLY, SUDDENLY STOPPED.
THIS ONE...
IT'S THE BUDDHIST TEMPLE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LIGHTHOUSE
HUH?
YOU MEAN HIS BLUEPRINTS ARE ALL OF ARCHITECTURE ON THIS ISLAND?!
NOD
HE SENDS A FOUR-YEAR-OLD KID A CONSTRUCTION BLUEPRINT! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?
OH, THAT'S THE FIRST ONE HE EVER GAVE ME
THEN...
...IT'S TRUE.
HE'S HERE...
...ON THIS ISLAND

BUT I HAVEN'T RECEIVED A SINGLE LETTER FROM HIM SINCE I GOT HERE
I WAS SURE HE'D COME RUNNING TO GREET ME SAYING "SORRY I DIDN'T WRITE BACK"
I THOUGHT I'D BE ABLE TO FIND HIM RIGHT AWAY WHEN I GOT HERE
THAT WAS THE LAST I EVER HEARD FROM HIM.
I ALMOST FEEL LIKE.
I'M NEVER GOING TO SEE HIM EVER AGAIN
FWOOSH

AND THE ONLY THING HE'D SEND WAS A BLUEPRINT
BUT WHY WOULD HE SEND ME A BLUEPRINT WITHOUT A LETTER?
HE DID REPLY, THOUGH - ONCE.
IT WAS WHEN I WROTE TO TELL HIM I WAS COMING TO STUDY HERE.
©KEI TSUWABUKI
IT WAS STRANGE.
SOMETHING ABOUT IT JUST FELT ODD

CRUNKLE...
AT FIRST I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST PART OF THE BLUEPRINT
I THOUGHT IT WAS STRANGE THAT HE'D WRITE IT THERE
"I'LL BE WAITING"
BUT IT MADE ME HAPPY
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW ENCOURAGING THOSE WORDS WERE TO ME.

CLATTER
I GUESS
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE HE RETIRED, SO I'M PRETTY SURE THERE'S NOTHING OF HIS LEFT
PROFESSOR HARA'S OFFICE?
IT MUST HAVE UPSET EIJIRO TOO
BUT HEARING THAT SOMEONE YOU ADMIRE HAS SEEMINGLY DROPPED OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH
I GUESS I GOT A BIT CARRIED AWAY. I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO TALK LIKE THAT WITH ANYONE ELSE ABOUT MY GRANDFATHER
UM, THIS...

...I'M GOING HOME.
HUH?
WAI-
DON'T...
...SAY THAT.
MICHIZU

IN THE END, HARA-S IN GOT DOWN ON HIS KNEES AND BEGGED, WHICH PUT AN END TO THE ENTLMTION.
HAR -SAN REALLY WANTED THE BOY TO GO ON TO STUDY ARCHITECTURE.
BUT THE FATHER OPPOSED, SAYING HARA-SAN HAD PUT FUNNY IDEAS IN THE BOY'S HEAD, AND THAT HE SHOULD TAKE RESPONSIBILITY. ETC. ETC
...I GET IT NOW.
THEN...
...THE INCIDENT IS WELL-KNOWN ON THIS ISLAND, RIGHT?
WELL SURE
THAT'S WHY BANGI PRETENDED NOT TO KNOW MY GRANDFATHER.
OH THAT'S THE PROFESSOR'S PERSONAL PHOTO
AT I SEE HARA-SAN'S IN IT TOO
THE BOY IN THE MIDDLE... YES, NOW I REMEMBER.
HE WAS ALWAYS IN AND OUT OF HARA-SAN'S OFFICE
EVEN THOUGH HE WAS STILL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, HE ACTED LIKE IT WAS PERFECTLY NATURAL FOR HIM TO VISIT.
BUT IT WAS A DIFFICULT TIME AS THE BOY WAS FIGURING OUT HIS FUTURE,
I REMEMBER THE FATHER CAME STORMING IN AND THERE WAS QUITE A RUCKUS.
THEN IF I ASK THIS BOY...
IS HE FROM AROUND HERE?
YES, I THINK SO.

...IT WOULD DREDGE UP THE PAST AND HE'D BE THE FOCUS OF UNWANTED ATTENTION AGAIN
HE MUST'VE BEEN WORRIED THAT IF I FOUND OUT ABOUT IT
HE CAUSED A FIGHT BETWEEN HIS FATHER AND MY GRANDFATHER

...BUT I WOULD'VE UNDERSTOOD IF HE'D JUST TOLD ME.

IT WOULDN'T HAVE BOTHERED ME.

AH!
ALWAYS WASTING TIME SCRIBBLING AWAY WITH THESE DRAWINGS!
GETTING INTERESTED IN SOMETHING STUPID LIKE ARCHITECTURE THAT WON'T MAKE YOU A SINGLE DIME!
SPLASH

NOW HIS FAMILY'S GETTING INTO THE ACT, TOO?!
IT'S NOT ENOUGH THAT HE DRAGGED MY SON INTO HIS SILLINESS!
DAD -
WE SUFFERED, TOO, YOU KNOW
AND THIS ONE NEARLY -
LOOK I DON'T WANNA HEAR ABOUT "RESPONSIBILITY" OR WHATEVER
STOP IT!
-?
MICHIRU -?!
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH -
IT'S GOT EVERYTHING TO DO WITH IT!

— KID,
YOU HAVEN'T SEEN OLD MAN HARA?
NO NOT FOR OVER TEN YEARS NOW
THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE – TO FIND HIM
C'MON, GET UP
TH THANK YOU
THAT'S WHY –
AH –
-AH-CHOO!-

— I GUESS THERE'S NO POINT TAKING IT OUT ON HIS GRANDSON

I'M SO GLAD IT'S SHALLOW HERE!
!!!
S. SKETCHING IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CONSTRUCTION DESIGN PROCESS.
IT'S NOT JUST DRAWING PICTURES!
HE REALLY LOVES ARCHITECTURE!
BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT IN SCHOOL BANGI-KUN WORKS HARD AND HE'S VERY SERIOUS ABOUT WHAT HE DOES
TO INVOLVE HIMSELF IN YOUR FAMILY AFFAIRS
I DON'T KNOW WHY MY GRANDFATHER FELT IT NECESSARY—

LIES TO HELP YOURSELF AND LIES TO HELP OTHERS
HAVING KNOWN MY GRANDFATHER...
MICHIRU MUST HAVE KNOWN THIS TOO
THAT'S WHAT MY GRANDFATHER TAUGHT ME
LITTLE BY LITTLE...
...I'M STARTING TO SEE
REVELATIONS.
I'D REALLY LIKE YOU TO HELP ME...
...FIND MY GRANDFATHER
LET'S SHAKE ON IT
OKAY?
GOOD, IT'S DECIDED!
AFTER ALL, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS ISLAND...
YOUR HELP WOULD ENCOURAGE ME, BANG!

IS THAT WHY YOU KEPT QUIET?
DID YOU KNOW THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN?
HMM
LOOKS LIKE HE ACCEPTED IT, HUH?
HAHAHA
STUPID
IF YOU'D JUST PRETENDED YOU WEREN'T RELATED,
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO SUFFER
YOU KNOW...
THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU, BANG!
THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF LIES.

SEA VIEW
海の見える屋根

SEA·VIEW
SCENE: 2

WHY DO YOU RESEMBLE TATSUMI SO MUCH?

YOU'RE SO STRAIGHT-FORWARD.

GRANDFATHER—

WE'LL BE COMING TO SEE YOU SOON

ME AND MICHIRU, TOGETHER

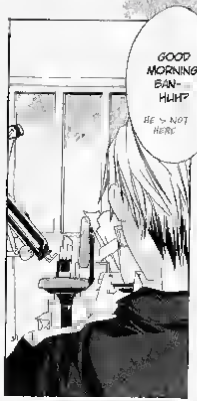
SCENE: 1 END

WE'RE ALMOST THERE.
HOLD UP.. A SEC...
...B .. BANG!...
AAAA !?
HE LOOKS FRAIL BUT HE'S ACTUALLY PRETTY TOUGH
OH WELL

I DON'T WANT YOU HANGING OUT WITH THAT KID
DON'T TELL HIM ANYTHING UNNECESSARY, EITHER
MICHIRU
GOT IT?
—I'M GOING OUT

WOW!
THIS ISN'T A TOURIST SPOT SO MAINTENANCE WAS TOO DIFFICULT...
"WHAT? THE KAMAKURA ERA?"
THEY SHOULD'VE PRESERVED IT!
...ONLY IN TERMS OF HISTORY. IT'S FROM THE KOWAN YEAR FIVE... I THINK
WAS IT FAMOUS?
*KAMAKURA ERA WAS 33-- 33
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN MY GRAND-FATHER'S HOUSE?
BANG!...
WHY WOULD HE SEND A BLUEPRINT OF A PLACE LIKE THIS TO A FOUR-YEAR-OLD KID?
YOU SEE, THE FIRST BLUEPRINT I EVER SAW WAS THE DESIGN PLAN OF HIS HOUSE
BUT HE LEFT BEFORE IT WAS EVER COMPLETED, SO I'VE NEVER SEEN THE ACTUAL PLACE.

IT MAKES YOU WANT TO TALK NICE AND LOUD AND CLEAR, DOESN'T IT?
SUCH NICE WEATHER!
LOOK THOSE TWO...
BANG-SAN AND S GRANDSON.
C'MON, BANG!
LET'S GO! WHERE'S THAT TEMPLE?!
IT'S NOTHING
I'M USED TO IT. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT...
I'M SORRY... IT'S ALL BECAUSE I CAME TO THIS ISLAND ISN'T IT?


GOOD MORNING BAN-HUH?
HE'S NOT HERE

SHEESH... DAY BY DAY, HIS PILE OF STUFF INCREASES.

OH! JEEZ!
HE'S EVEN GOT ONE OF HIS MODELS SHOVED WAY UNDER THE -

PERHAPS IT'S MY GRANDFATHER'S WAY OF TELLING ME TO DISCOVE WITH MY OWN EYES...
YEAH

TO COME DISCOVER HIS HOUSE FOR MYSELF

PERHAPS...
THIS IS SOME SORT OF RIDDLE
THE LETTERS THAT HAVE STOPPED COMING HIS DISAPPEARANCE
I JUST WANT TO SEE HIS HOUSE FOR MYSELF
REMEMBER THE BLUE-PRINT LINES IN YOUR HEAD...
AND YOU CAN PROJECT IMAGINARY PERSPECTIVE LINES VISUALIZING THE BUILDING'S CONSTRUCTION IN THREE DIMENSIONS, FROM THE EXTERIOR
MY GRANDFATHER ALWAYS USED TO SAY...
WHEN SKETCHING, IT'S EASIER FOR HIM TO VISUALIZE THE ENTIRE SPACE OF A BUILDING FROM A BLUEPRINT THAN TO LOOKING AT AN ACTUAL SCALE MODEL
ISN'T IT FUN IMAGINING WHAT KIND OF BUILDING WILL ARISE JUST TO LOOKING AT MERE LINES ON A SHEET OF PAPER?

BAN...GP?!
JUST NOW...
...DID HE DO THAT ON PURPOSE...?
WHY?
...?
MICHIRU?
YEAH I WAS IN ELECTIVE CLASS WITH HIM
DANG
DANG
BANG! I'LL BUILD THAT ONE AGAIN SO
...IT'S OKAY

SCATTER
SMASH!
!!!

HEY, KEI!
LET'S GO EAT
WELL THEN, TODAY'S ASSIGNMENT IS DUE THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW
...IT'S POSSIBLE TO RENDER A COMPLETELY ACCURATE REPRESENTATION OF THE FINISHED STRUCTURE
DING
DONG
THAT
IT CAN'T BE...
...WAS A MODEL OF MY GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE!

RIGHT IN THE TRASH
HE USUALLY NEVER KEEPS HIS MODELS AFTER THEY'VE BEEN RETURNED
THAT'S UNUSUAL, THOUGH
THUNK
TRASH BIN
THEN I MUST BE THE REASON
WHAT I CHILLED?
NO, NOT A THING
HE DOESN'T CARE WHAT WE DO OR SAY
WHAT? DID ANYTHING HAPPEN TO UPSET HIM?

BASICALLY, IT'S POSSIBLE TO DO A PERSPECTIVE SKETCH ONCE THE FLOOR HEIGHT AND DESIGN PLAN HAVE BEEN DETERMINED
WHERE HAVE I SEEN IT BEFORE?
NO, I DON'T THINK IT WAS A PROJECT I'VE NEVER SEEN IT IN CLASS.
WELL, YOU PROBABLY SAW IT DURING CLASS.
IT'S JUST THAT THIS PARTICULAR MODEL SEEMED FAMILIAR...

IN OTHER WORDS, AS LONG AS ONE HAS A FLOOR PLAN...
YOU CAN THEN CALCULATE THE ACTUAL MEASUREMENTS OF THE INNER LAYOUT
BECAUSE THE DRAWING IS DONE TO RULES OF SCALE, ONCE THE PROPERTY HAS BEEN RENDERED IN TWO DIMENSIONS
THE RECTANGULAR PARALLELPIPED DESIGN...
THE UPPER BEAMS EXTENDING OUT SO FAR LIKE THAT...

I'LL BE A MINUTE.
TV
CLICK
WHO IT WILL YOUR ANSWER BE ...?
THIS IS THE END OF THE RIDDLE...
...GRANDFATHER.

...I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO ASK HIM...
THERE WAS JUST SOMETHING ABOUT THAT EXPRESSION OF HIS...
I SEE! SO YOU HAVE SEEN IT BEFORE, HAVE YOU? HAHAHA!
OHHH, SO THAT WAS A MODEL OF MY GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE!
DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRY
TSUWABUKI SAN
PLEASE STEP UP TO THE COUNTER
LET'S SEE...
YOU WANT TO LOOK AT THE RESIDENCE REGISTRATION FOR TATSUHARA, RIGHT?
AND THIS SHOULD FINALLY CLEAR EVERYTHING UP
THERE'S NO REASON FOR MICHIRU TO HIDE ANYTHING FROM ME ANYMORE
...IT'S GOT TO BE MY IMAGINATION

THEY DON'T KNOW WHERE HE IS
WHAT?
THERE'S NO ONE CURRESPONDING TO THAT ADDRESS.
IT'S BEEN DELETED
OUR INQUIRIES FOUND THAT NO ONE WAS LIVING AT THE ADDRESS REGISTERED SO
BY THIS OFFICE'S AUTHORITY THE REGISTRATION HAS BEEN ERASED
IT CAN'T BE !
HE'S NOT ON THIS ISLAND
SINCE WHEN..?
HE'S NOT ANYWHERE...
SINCE HIS LETTERS STOPPED COMING..?
BUT IF IT WAS SO LONG AGO THEN.
CALM DOWN, KEI TSUWABUKI!

WHAT'S WRONG?
TSUWA-
THEY DON'T KNOW -
MY GRAND FATHER.
HE'S NOT HERE

STOP IT! I'M NOT ON ANYBODY'S "SIDE"!
HOLD ON! NOW ISN'T THE TIME TO TALK ABOUT TH...
HUH? WHAT?
SO IF YOU COULD TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? EVEN IF THERE'S A DIVORCE, YOU STILL HAVE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF OBLIGATION -

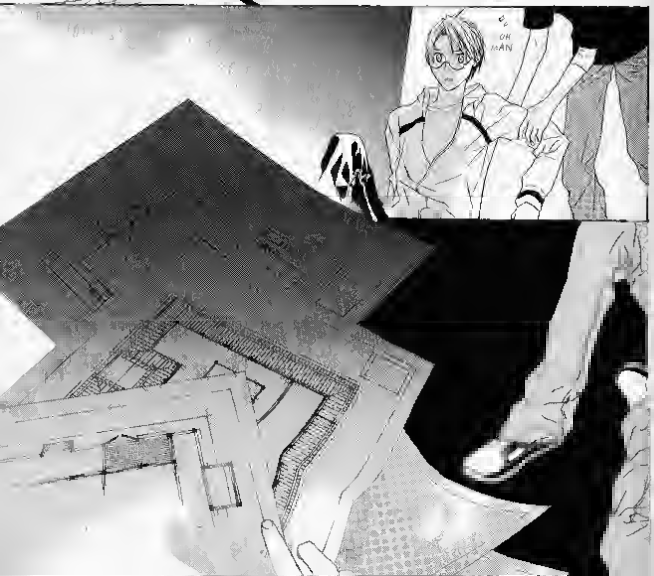
THE PROBLEMS BETWEEN YOU AND DAD HAVE GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH GRANDFATHER, DO THEY?!

IT GOT REALLY UGLY DURING MY PARENTS' DIVORCE
Y'SEE...

MY MOTHER.
BUT SHE MIGHT NOT DO IT
MY PARENTS ARE DIVORCED AND BESIDES.
ISN'T THERE SOMEONE WHO COULD DO THAT FOR HIM?
IF I'M CORRECT
WHEN SOMEONE'S BEEN DECLARED AS "RESIDENCE UNKNOWN"...
IT'S OKAY IF HIS REGISTERED ADDRESS IS TRANSFERRED TO THE ADDRESS OF A FAMILY MEMBER.
THE REASON SHE LEFT THIS ISLAND WAS BECAUSE SHE WANTED TO GET AWAY FROM MY GRANDFATHER

"...KEI."
"BOTH MOM AND DAD..."
"LIARS!"
"THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF LIES."
"...THEY CAN JUST GO ON FIGHTING LIKE THEY ALWAYS DO."
I KNOW. I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN.
BUT I COULDN'T STAND IT.
BEING LIED TO SHOWED ME HOW LITTLE I WAS WORTH TO THEM.
...AND HOW LITTLE MY EXISTENCE MATTERED
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO...?

...I WISH I COULD JUST FIND SOMETHING
I DON'T CARE HOW SMALL A CLUE IT IS...
I HATED IT THAT'S WHY I RAN TO GRANDFATHER.
BUT YOU KNOW HOW ADULTS HIDE STUFF LIKE THAT FROM KIDS
THEY MIGHT ACCEPT YOU AS HIS REGISTRANT EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE ONLY HIS GRANDSON...
...MAYBE IF YOU EXPLAINED YOUR SITUATION...
HEY, BANG!
HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL THIS STUFF?
YOU'RE RIGHT
I'LL TRY IT



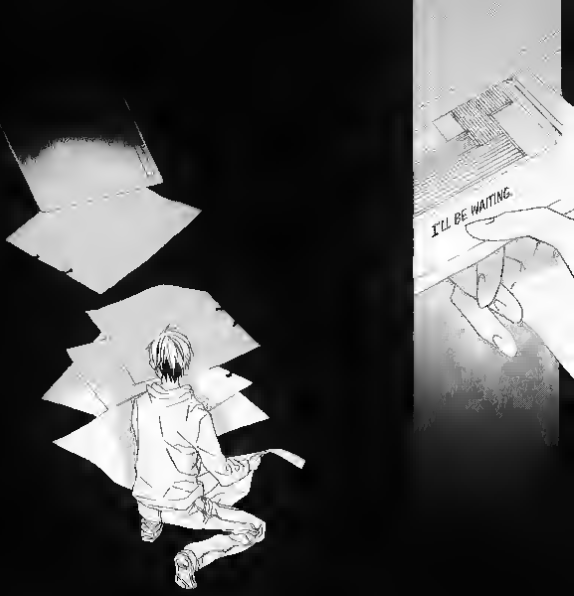
"NOW LISTEN.

SOMETIMES A LIE IS TOLD

FOR THE GOOD OF THE OTHER PERSON ..."

...BANG!
EXPLAIN THIS TO ME.
HEY.

IN PLACE OF MY GRAND-FATHER.
PRETENDING TO BE HIM.
DOES THAT MEAN YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S BEEN SENDING THE LETTERS THIS WHOLE TIME?
THIS...
IT'S THE ORIGINAL, ISN'T IT? OF THE BLUEPRINT I HAVE.


I'LL BE WAITING.

I WON'T ASK YOU WHY YOU DID IT.
BUT IN EXCHANGE.
TO: KEI TSUWABUKI

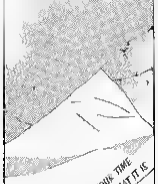
YOU KNEW ALL ALONG!
YOU KNEW HE'S BEEN MISSING.
HAH
BUT YOU NEVER TOLD ME
THAT'S ALL.

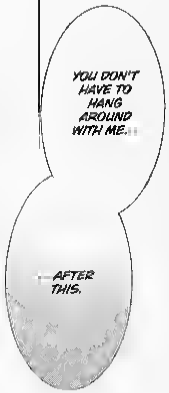
THUNK
RATTLE.

CLATTER!
OH, AND BANG!?
YOUR COFFEE'S SPILLING

AGAIN?
I HEAR THEY'VE TACKED UP NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL HOMEWORK ON THE BOARD
OH YEAH, KEI,

'KAY
– LATER


RATHER THAN SPENDING YOUR TIME CHASING ME, ACCOMPLISH WHAT IT IS YOU HAVE TO DO.


YOU DON'T HAVE TO HANG AROUND WITH ME...
– AFTER THIS.

OKAY, THEN, WE'LL TRANSFER THE REGISTERED ADDRESS OF TATSUMI HARA TO YOUR FAMILY.
HARBOR FRONT TOWN OFFICES
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
SOON AFTERWARD...
THE PAPERWORK ARRIVED FROM MY MOTHER.

WHAT ABOUT ME?
WHOOSH
HELLO, MOM?
IT'S ME, KEI. YEAH, I SUBMITTED THE PAPERWORK.
BUT SHE CHOSE TO ACCEPT HIM IN SPITE OF THEM.
SHE MAY STILL HAVE HER PREJUDICES. .

STAGGER
WOBBLE
!!!
OH!
I'M

I DON'T WANT THE CONNECTION I FELT WITH HIM THAT DAY TO BE A LIE
I JUST DON'T WANT OUR RELATIONSHIP TO FADE AWAY WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO ASK HIM ANYTHING
IT DOESN'T MATTER. WHAT MICHIRU KNOWS ABOUT ALL THIS.
I'M GOING TO FIND GRANDFATHER
I'M NOT GIVING UP UNTIL I DO.
BUT IN REALITY I'D ALREADY "MET" HIM LONG AGO
EVEN WHEN PEOPLE ARE APART THEY CAN STAY CONNECTED IF THEY REALLY WANT TO.
MOM... I WAS EXCHANGING LETTERS WITH GRANDFATHER THE WHOLE TIME SINCE WE LEFT THE ISLAND
DID YOU KNOW THAT?
I THOUGHT THE FIRST TIME I MET FANGI WAS RIGHT AFTER I CAME TO COLLEGE
FLUTTER...

SEA VIEW

海の見える屋根

A SEA VIEW

SCENE: 3

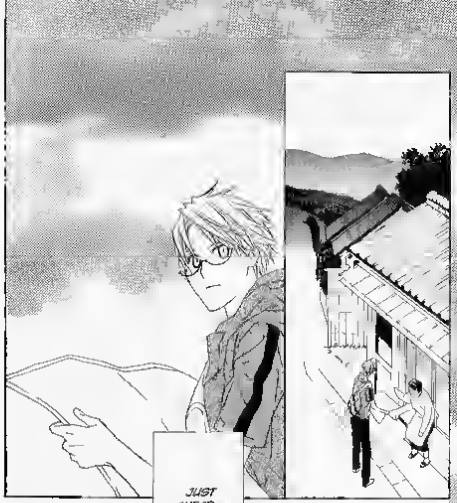
...GRANDFATHER, ARE YOU LAUGHING AND THINKING I'M TOO BULLHEADED?
BUT YOU SEE, FOR SOME REASON...
...I JUST CAN'T GET HIM OUT OF MY MIND.
I'LL BE WAITING

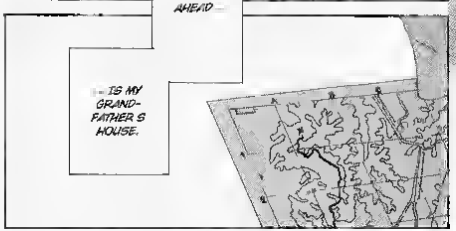
SCENE:2 END

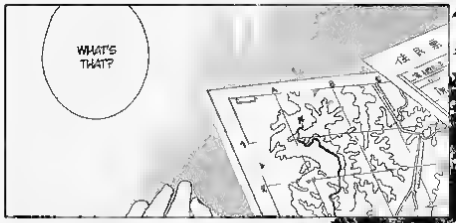
OKAY.
HERE USE A TRA
BANG!
I WONDER IF I CAN GET A FREE CITY MAP SOMEWHERE
JUST LOOKING FOR SOMETHING
WHA- DID YOU BUY THIS? THIS WON'T HELP YOU FIND SPECIFIC ADDRESSES!
OH! HERE COMES THE QUICKEST WAY FOR YOU TO FIND OUT
WHY DON'T YOU ASK HIM?

IT'S OKAY.
HEY, BANG!- DUDE!

THIS IS MY OWN PROBLEM
OKAY -WHATEVER
IF YOU'RE GOING UP INTO THE MOUNTAINS BE SURE TO TAKE AN UMBRELLA.
THE WEATHER UP THERE S UN PREDICTABLE


THIS ADDRESS... IT SHOULD BE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE...


JUST AHEAD—
...IS MY GRAND-FATHER S HOUSE.


WHAT'S THAT?

HAVE YOU SEEN MY SON MICHIRU?
GEE. HE WAS STANDING BY THE RADIO JUST A MINUTE AGO...
BUT NOW... HE'S GONE, YOU SAY?
THAT CONCLUDES THE THREE O CLOCK WEATHER REPORT
WE'VE GOT TO HURRY AND UNLOAD THE BOATS.
THE WEATHER IS TURNING...
SHHH
WHOA! HERE IT COMES!
FLUTTER

WHOA!

IS THERE REALLY...
A HOUSE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE GO THROUGH HERE... WAS THERE EVEN A HOUSE OVER THERE...?
IF THIS IS THE ADDRESS, IT SHOULD BE JUST ACROSS THE RIVER
STEP

WHAT IF HE'S GOTTEN LOST UP THERE...
...AND CAN'T MAKE IT BACK...?
NOTICE BOAR
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS REPORT TO STUDE ROOM MANAGEME

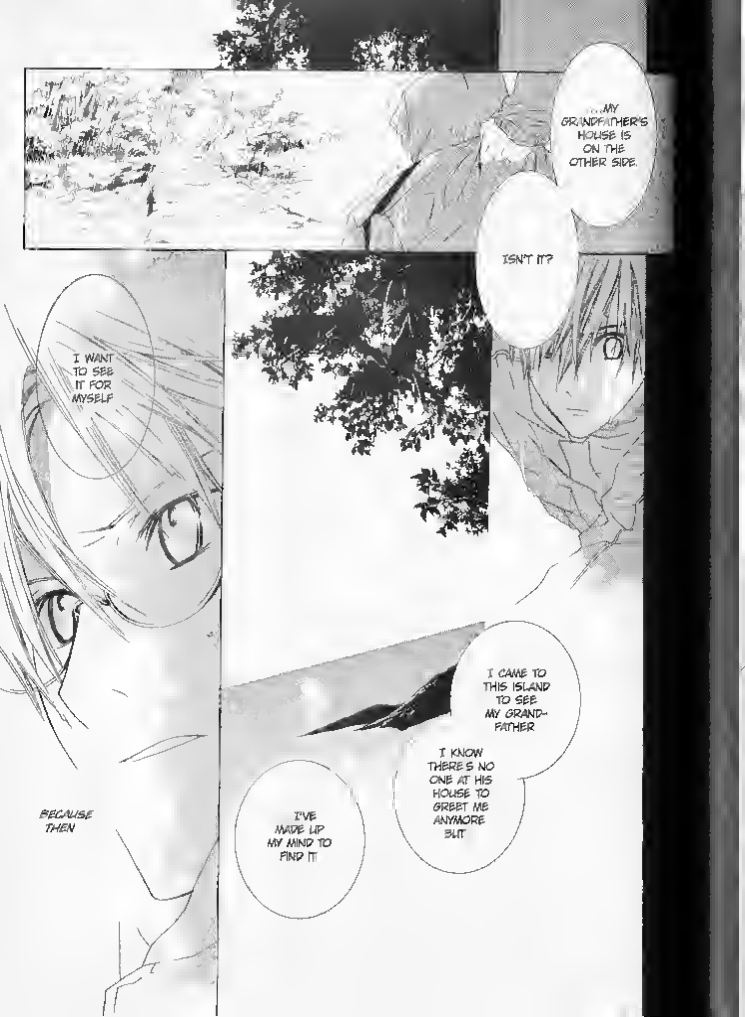
HE ASKED ME ABOUT THE MAP KEI WAS LOOKING AT YESTERDAY
YEAH MICHIRU WENT WITH HIM, RIGHT?
THE TWO?
THE TWO OF THEM SHOULD BE OKAY TOGETHER

WELL HE IS A LOCAL AFTER ALL, SO...
SHAAAA

WHOA!

THIS SHOULD BE THE RIGHT ROAD
POUR

RUN!!
!
ROAARRR
WHOA!
RoAAAAAR
FLOATING BRIDGE
ROAARR
SPLASH
GET BACK!
SPLASH


...MY GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE IS ON THE OTHER SIDE.
ISN'T IT?
I WANT TO SEE IT FOR MYSELF
BECAUSE THEN
I'VE MADE UP MY MIND TO FIND IT
I KNOW THERE'S NO ONE AT HIS HOUSE TO GREET ME ANYMORE BUT
I CAME TO THIS ISLAND TO SEE MY GRAND-FATHER

ROAAARR
SHAAAA
EVEN IF THE FLOW SEEMS MILD
THERE'S NO TELLING WHEN A FLASH FLOOD WILL SUDDENLY COME DOWN
WHY ARE YOU BEING SO RECKLESS?!
MICHIRU—

I CAN'T HAVE IT SWEEP YOU AWAY WITH IT TOO
RATHER THAN SP
CHASING ME, AC
YOU HAVE TO
RAWWRR
SHAA
LET'S GO BACK

SO IF I CAN'T TAKE THIS ROAD, THEN
I'LL BE ABLE TO FACE YOU ONCE AGAIN, MICHIRU
THE LAND AROUND HERE IS UNEVEN, WITH A LOT OF RISES AND FALLS.
SO THERE'S NO PREDICTING THE COURSE
THE SWOLLEN RIVER WILL TAKE IN THIS TERRAIN

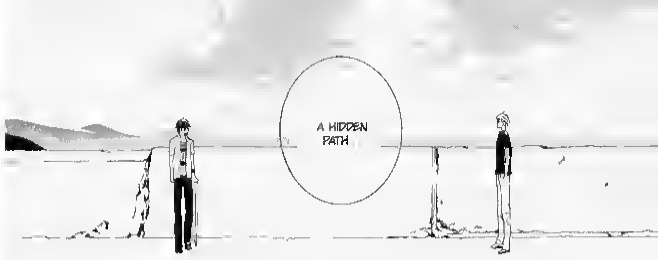
SHAAAA

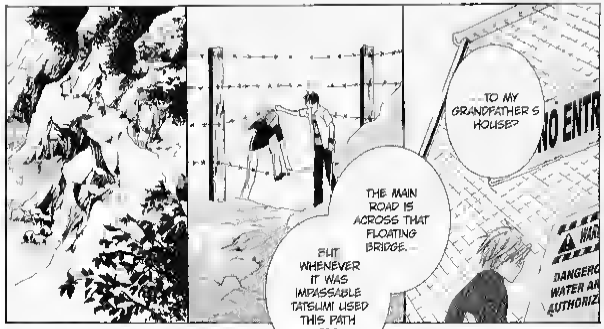
WHAT?

JUST BECAUSE I'VE FOUND SOMETHING NEW THAT'S PRECIOUS TO ME,
DOESN'T MEAN IT'S CHANGED MY OLD FEELINGS
SO, GRAND-FATHER...
FOR NOW I'LL DO WHAT I HAVE TO DO

CRSH
CRSH
CRSH

THANKS TO THIS PATH...
I WAS ABLE TO MEET TATSUMI
PLANNED BUILDING SITE
JUST AHEAD
IT'S MY GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE!


A HIDDEN PATH


TO MY GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE?
THE MAIN ROAD IS ACROSS THAT FLOATING BRIDGE.
BUT WHENEVER IT WAS IMPASSABLE TATSUMI USED THIS PATH TOO

IT'S LIKE ONE OF THOSE "SECRET SHORTCUTS" KIDS ALWAYS HAVE

THE RIVER FLOODED UPSTREAM BACK THEN, TOO.
BY THE TIME I GOT HERE, MORE THAN HALF OF THE HOUSE WAS ALREADY UNDERWATER
TATSUMI!
I SEARCHED AND SEARCHED BUT FOUND NO TRACE OF TATSUMI ANYWHERE

YOU SEE, IT WAS A CHORE OF MINE TO FETCH TATSUMI'S LETTERS FOR HIM FROM HIS P.O. BOX.
NOW I SEE HE'S CARRIED THIS BURDEN FOR SO LONG
...AND I ANSWERED IT
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO THEN ONE OF YOUR LETTERS TO HIM ARRIVED IN THE MAIL...
OH
I COULDN'T BEAR TO LET YOU FIND OUT THAT TATSUMI WAS MISSING
HE REGRETTED MAKING YOU SNEAK BEHIND YOUR MOTHER'S BACK TO CORRESPOND WITH HIM.
HE SAID HE FELT SO BAD ABOUT IT.
TATSUMI HAD LONG BEEN TRYING TO SEND IT TO YOU, BUT HE COULDN'T BRING HIMSELF TO DO IT.
THE ONLY THING I COULD RESCUE FROM TATSUMI'S HOUSE WAS THAT LETTER.
CHASING ME. ACCOMPLISH WHAT IT

MI-
NOT ANY-WHERE...
...
...
...
THAT'S WHY...
...I BELIEVED THAT HE'D JUST SHOW UP ONE DAY...
THAT HE WAS SOMEWHERE... STILL ALIVE.

MY EARLIER WORDS OF REJECTION
HE'S ACCEPTING THEM?
I STILL HAVEN'T HEARD EVERYTHING YET!
FORGET ABOUT MY WILL AND MY FEELINGS
TELL ME WHAT IT IS THAT YOU WANT TO DO!

I TOOK EVERYTHING OUT ON YOU
IT'S FINE
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S SUFFERED MORE!
!
BY WAITING I'VE MADE YOU SUFFER
I SHOULD HAVE GIVEN IT TO YOU SOONER.
IF THIS IS GOING TO BE THE LAST TIME WE MEET AS FRIENDS,
I WANT TO TELL YOU EVERYTHING I KNOW REGARDING TATSUMI
BUT IF YOU'RE GOING TO LOOK FOR HIM ...
I'LL HELP. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ASK.

ENOUGH WITH THE RATIONALIZATIONS!
AFTER CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF TATSUMI'S THOUGHT PATTERNS, I DEDUCED IT AS THE MOST APPROPRIATE RESPONSE
A-

MY GRANDFATHER'S WORDS.

THEY'RE MICHIRU'S WORDS.

1-h
AUDIO-VISUAL ROOM
GARDEN CLUB
BANG!
IS THIS OKAY FOR THE LIGHT?
CLUNK
IS THIS A MODEL OF SOMEONE'S HOUSE?
IS THE CAMERA READY?
WHAT'S THIS? WHAT'S HAPPENING?
YEAH, OF MICHIRU'S FRIEND HE WANTS TO RECREATE THE "TRUE ATMOSPHERE" OF IT.

OKAY THEN, I WON'T CONSIDER GRANDFATHER'S OR YOUR FEELINGS ANYMORE EITHER.
WHAT IT IS I WANT TO DO...
THAT'S WHAT I'LL TELL YOU FROM NOW ON
I HEAR THEM ECHOING IN MICHIRU'S VOICE
YOU CAN.
THINK THAT IF YOU LIKE

WHSSH

NEGI! WAIT, WAIT! I HAVEN'T EVEN SAID ANYTHING YET!
THE FURNITURE THE LIGHTING THE EXTERIOR -
I'VE TRIED TO RECREATE TATSUMI'S HOUSE AS EXACTLY AS I CAN REMEMBER.
WHAT IS IT?
DON'T LIKE IT? THEN JUST SAY SO.
HOW COULD I NOT LIKE IT?

THE DESIGN IS SUCH THAT THE RAISED ANGLE OF THE ROOF
CATCHES THE REFLECTED LIGHT OFF OF THE OCEAN
WOW IT'S AMAZING
I'M STILL NOWHERE NEAR AS GOOD AS TATSUMI
SO THIS IS ALL I CAN DO FOR NOW.
"I WANT TO MAKE SOMETHING FOR KEI."
"AS LONG AS IT'S HERE IT CAN PROVIDE A DIVERSION TO MAKE HIM FEEL BETTER WHILE HE'S ON THIS ISLAND"
THAT'S WHAT TATSUMI SAID

Kei Tsuwabuki &
Michiru Bangi

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES

LET'S GO FIND HIM.

—TOGETHER.

SCENE:3 END

THOU OF THE BLOSSOMS

ONE

Akira Ichimura &
Sayatsugu Isumi

WHENEVER YOU NEED TO HEAD DOWN TO THE GARDENS,
PLEASE ASK HIM TO GUIDE YOU
THIS IS MY GRANDSON AKIRA

HE IS STILL A YOUNG STUDENT SO I HAVE NOT YET MADE THIS PUBLIC HOWEVER,
IN TIME HE IS TO BE THE NEXT HEAD OF THIS HOUSEHOLD. PLEASE GET TO KNOW HIM.

..?
CAMELLIAS
...BY THE WAY I HAVE HEARD RUMORS OF THE EXISTENCE...
...OF A FABULOUS PRIVATE GARDEN ACCESSIBLE ONLY TO MEMBERS OF THE ICHIMURA FAMILY

MY SINCEREST THANKS...
...FOR ALLOWING ME TO PHOTOGRAPH YOUR PROPERTY

GRAND-MOTHER
IT IS I, AKIRA PARDON MY INTRUSION
I HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS THAT YOU WILL TAKE WONDERFUL PICTURES
I HAVE HEARD ABOUT YOU FROM YOUR MANY SPONSORS ISUMI SAMA. YOUR REPUTATION PRECEDES YOU
I HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO MAKE YOUR DISTINGUISHED GARDEN... THE SUBJECT OF MY ENTRY IN A PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

NOW IF YOU'LL PARDON ME.
THANK YOU
IF YOU HAVE COME HERE MERELY OUT OF IDLE CURIOSITY...
...YOU ARE NOTHING BUT A NUISANCE
WOW...
HE SURE READ ME THE RIOT ACT
SO I THOUGHT THEY'D BE PROUD TO SHOW IT OFF, BUT...
THE RUMOR ABOUT THE PRIVATE GARDEN IS ONE THAT NEARLY EVERYONE HAS HEARD OF...
OH!

I SUPPOSE YOU HAVE TO, AS PART OF YOUR JOB.
PHOTO-GRAPHERS TAKE AN AVID INTEREST IN EVERYTHING, I SEE.
I WOULD NOT EXACTLY CALL IT A "GARDEN."
THANK YOU
THIS WILL BE YOUR ROOM
FEEL FREE TO USE IT DURING YOUR STAY
...MY GRANDMOTHER CONSENTED TO THIS, BUT -
I DO NOT KNOW WHY

WELL, YOU KNOW... JUST CURIOUS IF THEY'RE REALLY AS FABULOUS AS THE RUMORS SAY
THE WORLD LOVES SLEUTHING AROUND IN OTHER PEOPLE'S MUD, AS DAILY GOSSIP SHOWS
WHY THE INTEREST?
WANNA WORK FOR A MAGAZINE, MAYBE, OR SOMETHING?
ANYWAY, ISN'T IT OUTSIDE YOUR AREA OF WORK?
BY THE WAY...
GOSSIP FIEND...
HE HAS TO COME OUTSIDE WHENEVER HE GOES TO SCHOOL.
IS THAT SO?
WHY NOT SNAG HIM FOR AN INTERVIEW THEN?
THE NEXT HEAD OF THE FAMILY IS A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, ISN'T HE?
TAKE IT FROM ME, THAT KIND OF THINKING WILL GET YOU INTO TROUBLE ONE DAY.
NICE THAT YOU'RE SO INTO YOUR WORK BUT...
YOU'RE AN ASSISTANT, RIGHT?
NEW?
LATER!

OH! IT'S YOU KITAGUMI.
WHAT YOU ON ASSIGNMENT AROUND HERE?
SOMETHIN'S LIKE THAT
NEVER MIND THAT, ISUMI
IS THERE SOMETHING OVER THERE?
YO!
HEY ICHI-
I HEAR YOU'VE GAINED ACCESS TO THE ICHIMURA'S GARDENS?
HUH?
THERE'S A LOT OF ATTENTION FOCUSED ON YOU, MY FRIEND!
IT WASN'T JUST ME
MY BOSS HAD A BIG PART IN RECOMMENDING ME
DON'T YOU KNOW?
THEY'VE ALWAYS REFUSED OUTSIDERS REQUESTS TO ENTER. BUT YOU'VE MANAGED TO MAKE THOSE ICHIMURAS OPEN THEIR GATES TO YOU!

WHOOSH
IS HE ALWAYS BEING HARASSED... BY REVOLTERS LIKE THAT?
IS THAT WHY HE'S SO -?

ICHIMURA-KUN...
I THINK HE CAME THIS WAY
I GUESS SOME PEOPLE JUST THINK THAT WAY

BUT WHY HERE, SO FAR BACK IN THE MOUNTAINS...?
ARE THEY FOR BREEDING?
AN ENDLESS ROW OF CRIMSON AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE.
W-...
...-OW...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

UH
NO
I GET THAT YOU WANT ME TO HURRY UP AND LEAVE, BUT YOU SEE...
I'M SORTA LOST
I WAS NOT LOOKING FOR ANYONE
YOU TEND TO THESE ALL BY YOURSELF?
...YES.
I DO.
ARE YOU NOT TAKING ANY PICTURES?
IT'S TRUE IT CAN'T REALLY BE CALLED A GARDEN
THEN THIS...
...MUST BE THE RUMORED PRIVATE GARDEN
SO NO ONE ELSE IS EVER ALLOWED IN HERE HUH?

W
WHAT IS IT? IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, THEN -
ENGAGE IN SUCH BURGLAR-LIKE ACTIVITY?
OR WHAT? DO ALL PHOTOGRA-PHERS...
THIS IS PRIVATE PROPERTY
TRESPASSING IS PROHIBITED.

IT IS CLEAR THAT YOU ARE NOT CUT OUT TO HANDLE PLANTS ISUMI-SAN
THEN IT'S THIS ONE! AM I RIGHT?
NO
UHM... SO IS THIS WHAT THEY CALL THE 'MARGINED' TYPE?
I CAN GENERALLY TELL WHICH ONES NEED IT BY LOOKING AT THE INDIVIDUAL BRANCH
YES...
ALL OF THEM?

WANNA TRY TAKING A PHOTO?

WELL IT'S NOT IN THE AGREEMENT...
...SO IT'D BE AGAINST THE RULES.
I DOUBT THAT YOU WILL EVER GET A CHANCE TO STEP IN HERE AGAIN

IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T *WANT* TO
DON'T GET ME WRONG!
SO YOU TREAT EACH FLOWER WITH THAT STUFF ONE BY ONE?

STOP!
!
WAIT!
ISUMI-SAN?
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
SORRY. HE GOT AWAY.
BUT I HAVE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA WHO THAT WAS.

EASY, HUH?
STEADY IT WITH YOUR LEFT HAND AT THE SIDE, THEN JUST PUSH THE SHUTTER
PUT YOUR RIGHT HAND HERE. THE SHUTTER BUTTON'S AT THE BOTTOM
HERE.
HM? OH, YOU WANT IT DEVELOPED?
A REGULAR PHOTO LAB CAN DO IT FOR YOU BUT WANT ME TO DO IT?
RUSTLE
UH...
NO, IT IS FINE...

I'VE ALSO RECEIVED INQUIRIES ABOUT WHETHER ONE OF MY STAFF HAS REALLY BEEN ALLOWED ACCESS TO THE ICHIMURAS.
IT CAME CIRCULATING 'ROUND FROM AN ACQUAIN TANCE OF MINE
WAIT, A
THIS IS...!
FAX
CLATTER!
OUT OF THE WAY
THERE'S A HUGE UPROAR
OVER THE WHOLE ICHIMURA THING

...HOLD ON I KNOW IT'S KIND OF STRANGE FOR ME TO BE SAYING THIS, BUT...
WHY THIS FUSS OVER SOME CAMELLIAS?
SEVERAL OTHERS HAVE BEEN SENT OVER THERE TO TRY AND GET INTERVIEWS AS WELL.

HE ENDED UP INJURING A CHILD WHO JUST HAPPENED TO CATCH HIM.
ONCE, A TRESPASSER SNUCK IN TO TRY TO TAKE SOME PHOTOS OF THESE MYSTERIOUS CAMELLIAS.
...BUT THERE'S A BIT OF AN INCIDENT ATTACHED TO IT.
APPARENTLY, IT'S A GENUS OF CAMELLIA THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN EXTINCT.
...A FLOWER WORTHY OF "NATURAL MONUMENT" STATUS...
INJURING...

I WANT TO TALK TO THAT NEW ASSISTANT OF YOURS!
LIKE I JUST SAID
HUH?
WHAT?

HE QUIT?!

YES. WELL... I'VE GOT TO GET THINGS READY FOR THE EXHIBITION.
HEY, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE BACK.

SO DON'T WORRY...
...
...
ICHIMURA-KUN...?

"HE HAS TO COME OUTSIDE WHENEVER HE GOES TO SCHOOL.
WHY NOT SNAG HIM FOR AN INTERVIEW THEN...?"
NO MATTER HOW VEHEMENTLY THE ICHIMURAS DENY INTERVIEWS.
PLEASE MOVE!
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS PUT IN A GOOD WORD FOR US WITH YOUR GRANDMOTHER
COME ON, JUST A SHORT INTERVIEW OKAY?
IN THE END
HE'S THE ONE WHO HAS TO DEAL WITH THE HARASSMENT!
THWAP
STOP IT!
HE'S JUST A KID!

WELL, AFTER THAT THEY STOPPED ACCEPTING ANY REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC INTERVIEWS OR VIEWINGS.
THERE WERE TRESPASSING CHARGES, THE POLICE WERE EVEN INVOLVED
IT LEFT A SCAR... AND THERE WAS A BIG TO-DO ABOUT DAMAGES AND WHATNOT.
I'M SURE THE LITTLE KID WAS JUST TRYING TO PROTECT HIS FAMILY'S TREASURED FLOWERS...
WOULD YOU?
...BECAUSE, JUDGING FROM YOUR PERSONALITY, YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO IGNORE IT.
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME ANY OF THIS...?
OF COURSE NOT!

I AM AFRAID I WILL HAVE TO RECONSIDER YOUR PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSIGNMENT WITH US
P PLEASE, WAIT!
NOT ONLY DID YOU ENTER THE PRIVATE GROUNDS WHERE THE CAMELLIAS ARE GROWN
...BUT TO HAVE PHOTOGRAPHS CIRCULATED PUBLICLY AS WELL...!
HE FOUND THE CAMELLIA GROUNDS BY ACCIDENT?
AND THESE PHOTOS WERE TAKEN BY A DIFFERENT MAN WHO WAS TRESPASSING!
ISUMI-SAN IS COMPLETELY BLAMELESS!

AT THIS POINT THE PROBLEM IS NOT WHERE THESE PHOTOGRAPHS CAME FROM,
BUT THAT THEY WERE PUBLISHED DURING ISUMI-SAN'S VISIT.
AND YESTERDAY, AKIRA WAS HARASSED BY REPORTERS
THERE WERE ONLY A FEW OF THEM THIS TIME — BUT I AM SURE THERE WILL BE MANY MORE.

ARE YOU OKAY?
...I AM FINE.

MAY I HEAR YOUR EXPLANATION, ISUMI-SAMA?

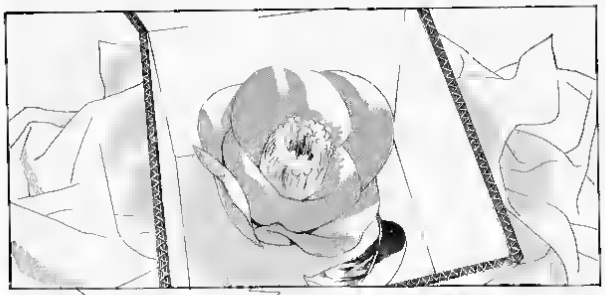
...STUPID OF ME?
THAT WAS -!
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?!
ISU...
THAT IS NOT WHAT I WAS GOING TO SAY!
WHY DID YOU JUST AGREE?
...WHY?

AND SO...
I MUST CANCEL OUR AGREEMENT AS OF TODAY.
PLEASE DESTROY ANY PHOTOGRAPHS YOU HAVE ALREADY TAKEN AS WELL.
YOU MAY DISPOSE OF THEM BY ANY METHOD YOU CHOOSE.
AND FOR THIS CHILD THERE IS NOTHING MORE TERRIFYING...

I LOCKED MINE AND YOU
AND THESE ARE THE ONLY PRINTS THAT WERE MADE.
I DELETED THE DATA
HERE.
YEAH. THE REPORTERS HAVE PRETTY MUCH BACKED OFF
NO ONE WILL HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH MATERIAL FROM A BUNCH OF SLEAZEBAGS WHO HASSLE A MINOR.
HE SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE NOW
THEN...
I SEE.
?
THIS CAME FOR YOU.
HERE.

I DON'T KNOW
ISUMI... EVEN IF YOU START RE-ORGANIZING EVERYTHING NOW...
(Sigh)
OH, AND I HAVE TO CALL THE SPONSORS TOO.
MAKE NEW ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE GALLERY. CONTACT THE ORGANIZERS
I KNOW THAT!
YOU'VE STILL GOT ALL THIS WORK LEFT TO DO
WHY...?
I DON'T KNOW WHY I AGREED
I SPENT MONTHS JUST TRYING TO GET PERMISSION TO SHOOT THERE

THE BLOSSOMS
HAVE ALL FALLEN



I'M TAKING THE DAY OFF!
GUEST
BOSS
WHAAAT?!

IS IT SOME KIND OF RIDDLE?
A FALLEN CAMELLIA BLOOM!

THIS IS TO UNDERSTAND THE STRENGTH OF AN ALL-CONSUMING DESIRE
...YOU SURE IT'S OKAY?
TO WISH SOMETHING FOR THE SAKE OF SOMEONE ELSE.
DO YOU THINK
...IT IS WRONG?
I HAVE FORMALLY DECIDED TO BECOME THE NEXT HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD
ISUMI-SAN,
THERE IS SOMETHING I WANTED TO TELL YOU
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I AM STILL RATHER NERVOUS ABOUT BEING IN THE PUBLIC EYE
I WANT YOU TO HURRY AND CAPTURE THE IMAGE OF THIS PLACE
BUT MORE THAN THIS,
NOT FOR THE SAKE OF OUR FAMILY OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT
IT IS JUST MY PERSONAL WISH

THOU OF THE BLOSSOMS

TWO

THOU OF THE BLOSSOMS ONE END

"HOW ABOUT THIS, AKIRA-KUN WHENEVER YOU COME DOWN TO TOKYO,
I'LL ALWAYS MAKE TIME TO HAVE LUNCH OR DINNER WITH YOU
WOULD YOU LIKE THAT?"
CAN EASILY READ WHAT IS
"YES."
THAT IS MY NEW PROMISE
SUMMER
DRRRR
DRRRR

NEXT YEAR...
...I'LL COME AGAIN. I PROMISE.
IT'S BEEN A YE... SINCE I MADE THAT PROMISE.
AND IT IS ONCE AGAIN TIME FOR THE CAMELLIAS TO BLOOM.
I SPENT THE WINTER VISITING THE PRIVATE GARDEN SNAPPING PICTURES FOR MY UPCOMING ENTRY IN A PHOTO EXHIBITION.
WITH THE PHOTOS TAKEN,
ALL THAT'S LEFT TO DO IS RETURN TO TOKYO FOR THE FINAL PREPARATIONS.
"YOU ARE LEAVING...?"
"I SEE..."
THIS IS PROBABLY THE LAST TIME I WILL SET FOOT IN THIS PLACE...

EDITOR'S ROOM
OFFICE
BUILDING ENTRANCE
MIMA ASKED ME TO COME UP HERE AND GET THESE BOOKS!
PLEASE DON'T JUST BARGE INTO AN EMPLOYEE'S PRIVATE ROOM - EVEN IF YOU ARE MIMASAKA-SAN'S WIFE!
TAMAKO-SAN!
REMEMBER TONIGHT IS THE RECEPTION FOR THE PHOTO EXHIBIT
DON'T BE LATE!
SEE YOU!
OKAY OKAY!
HA HA HA -
SOUNDS LIKE LOVELY SLEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS
GOOD-BYE.
CLICK
YOU MAY GO

ISUMI IS CURRENTLY SNORING AWAY IF YOU'D LIKE TO LEAVE A MESSAGE -
BEEP
OH WELL, I'LL JUST ANSWER IT HELLOOO?
ICHIMURA SOMETHING...
HOW DO YOU READ THIS NAME?
NN WHO IS IT...?
HEY, YOUR CELL PHONE'S RINGING!
H-...
HELLO?!
SHOVE

HE WAS JUST HERE.
WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO WITHOUT A COMMENT FROM THE WINNER?
FIND HIM
HEY WHERE DID ISUMI-SAN GO?
ISUMI-SAN!
SHH
IS-
POPULAR, AREN'T YOU?
IT'S BEEN LIKE THIS ALL DAY...
YES THANK YOU!
NOW I GET SO MANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING YOUR FAMILY
IS EVERYTHING OKAY WITH YOU?
I TELL YA, THE ICHIMURA CAMELLIAS WENT OVER BIG!
WHATEVER
THIS MORNING IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!

IT WAS HIS FIRST CALL IN TWO MONTHS TOO.
HUH... YOUNG ISN'T HE?
ICHIMURA ...? AH...
AH, ICHIMURA-SAMA LET ME TAKE YOUR INVITATION

ISUMI SAN
THIS IS THE WAY TO THE STATION, IS IT NOT?
FOR TODAY YOUR GRANDMOTHER ORDERED ME TO SEND YOU DIRECTLY BACK TO KYOTO.
ARE YOU TAKING BACK YOUR PROMISE?
BUT I HEAR YOU HAVE A PRELIMINARY EXAM TOMORROW AT YOUR PREP SCHOOL
YOU DIDN'T TELL ME THAT
A MERE TWO DAYS OFF WILL NOT AFFECT ME.
C'MON NOW A STUDENT FACING COLLEGE EXAMS SHOULDN'T THINK THAT WAY

I AM FINE
SURE?
I SAW YOU CLUTCHING YOUR NECK EARLIER, SO I WAS WORRIED
SEVERAL PUBLISHERS WERE INVITED HERE TODAY
SO I WAS WORRIED THAT THEY MIGHT'VE SEEN YOUR NAME ON THE GUEST LIST AND CORNERED YOU
IT'S BEEN A WHILE
TWO MONTHS TO BE EXACT

ISUMI-SAN -
YOU ARE FAR TOO OBEDIENT
OH! GO ON NOW. THE TRAIN IS LEAVING
WHAT I AM SAYING IS -
THAT IS NOT WHAT I AM TALKING ABOUT

OKAY?
I SAID I WILL BE ALL RIGHT - AND I SHOULD KNOW!
AKIRA-KUN...
I AM UNHAPPY ABOUT THIS.
...WHAT'S WRONG?
THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU
THAT IS NOT IT!
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT.
SHE DIDN'T ASK ME TO LOOK AFTER YOU BECAUSE SHE THINKS YOU'RE A CHILD.
YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S JUST CONCERNED FOR YOUR "STUDENT" RESPONSIBILITIES.

BUT ALL I DID WAS SIT AND DO ALL DAY
HI!
TRIVIA
WHY ARE YOU A MERE SECRETARY EATING FIRST?
HO-HO. INDEED
BUT THE ICHIMURA'S CAMELLIAS ARE STILL THE BEST
ARE YOU OFF TO ANOTHER CAMELLIA EXHIBIT?
SO WHO WAS THAT GENTLEMAN EARLIER?
HE WAS GLARING AT ME!
"HOBAB K BECAU" YOU LOOK SHADY"
GLARING?
HIS NAME IS ISUMI-SAN
HIS PHOTOGRAPHS OF OUR CAMELLIAS WON THE EXHIBITION AWARD
ISUMI-SAN?

FWEEE
AKIRA-SAN?
IS SOME-THING THE MATTER?
OH! NO...
CHAIR-MAN
CLICK

LET'S GO TO KYOTO!.....①
GUARDIAN OF THE CAMELLIAS
TWO OR THREE MARU
HE'S GOOD-LOOKING FROM A DISTINGUISHED FAMILY AND A YOUNG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TO BOOT.
BECAUSE OF HIS POPULARITY MAYBE PEOPLE WILL COME TO SEE YOUR WORK TOO!
SO LET'S GIVE THIS EXHIBITION ALL THAT WE'VE GOT
HEY ARE YOU LISTENING?
GET TO WORK
THAT "OTHER STORY" HAS RUN DRY BY NOW, ANYWAY.
BUT, I MEAN, IT WAS SO THEY COULD INTERVIEW THE CULTURED PATRONS OF THE ARTS WHO ATTENDED.
BESIDES, HE'S MOSTLY THE SUBJECT OF LADIES MAGAZINES THESE DAYS
...THAT AKIRA-KUN
PHEW.
WAIT A MINUTE! I DON'T REMEMBER BRINGING HIS NAME
HE'S PROBABLY STILL TAKING HIS TESTS...
I'M STILL NOT SURE THAT THE MAN I SAW IS A REPORTER.

HOW DARE YOU RUN OUT HALFWAY THROUGH THE RECEPTION YESTERDAY!
WHO ARE YOU?
COME ON! IT'S ME!
HEY WHAT TYPES OF MAGAZINES WERE INVITED YESTERDAY?
CULTURE, ENTERTAINMENT THE ARTS FASHION, ETC... ETC
WHY?
ANY TABLOIDS?
JUST AS I SUSPECTED...
THAT MAN YESTERDAY... I DON'T RECOGNIZE HIM FROM THE GUEST LIST
IS HE SOMEONE IN THE PUBLISHING BIZ?
THERE WERE DOZENS OF THEM AT THAT EXHIBIT...
SO IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THERE'D BE A FEW FACES I WOULDN'T RECOGNIZE...
TSUNE!!!

...ALTHOUGH IT LEFT A SCAR ON THE CHILD'S NECK.

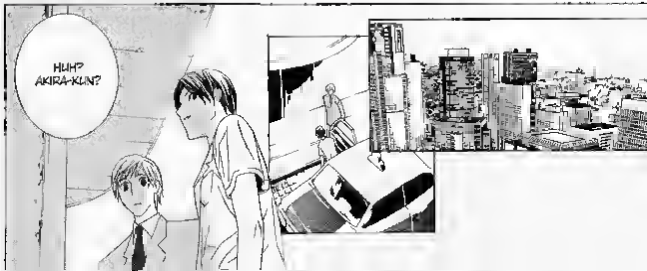
I HAVE RETURNED
I STILL CAN'T FORGET THAT PETRIFIED LOOK I SAW ON YOUR FACE THAT DAY
YOU SMILE AND SAY "I'M FINE"...
BUT

ONE YEAR AGO.
I LOOKED UP A SMALL ARTICLE IN THE NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES.
THE STORY CONCERNED A REPORTER WHO, WHEN DENIED ACCESS AGAIN AND AGAIN, FINALLY TRESPASSED IN ORDER TO TAKE PHOTOS.
HE INJURED A CHILD WHO HAPPENED TO CATCH HIM.

LUCKILY, THE INJURY HAD NOT BEEN LIFE-THREATENING...
...!

I DO NOT WISH TO MAKE HIM WORRY
PLEASE
SHALL WE GO...?
KITAOUMI-SAN
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
YOU'RE NOT WITH ISUMI? EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE IN TOKYO?
AND WHO'S THIS MAN YOU'RE WITH...?
PLEASE DO NOT MENTION THIS TO ISUMI SAN

CHAIR-MAN.
MAY I ACCOMPANY YOU?
YOU SEE, IT'S THOSE PHOTO GRAPHS OF THE CAMEL-LIAS YOU MENTIONED AKIRA-SAN
NOW I'VE GOT A HANKERING TO SEE THEM FOR MYSELF
IT SEEMS THAT THE CHAIRMAN IS HEADING TO TOKYO ONCE AGAIN
EVEN THOUGH YOU ONLY RETURNED YESTERDAY?


HUH? AKIRA-KUN?

MAYBE HE LIKES SIGHT SEEING ON HIS OWN!
WELL Y- YOU KNOW... HE DOESN'T HAVE TO CONTACT YOU EVERY TIME HE VISITS
BUT HE'S STILL GOT TESTS IN KYOTO HE SHOULDN'T HAVE THE TIME TO BE HERE
AKIRA-KUN?
HERE IN TOKYO AGAIN?
CAME TO THINK OF IT HE WAS IN SCHOOL UNIFORM
SOMETHING THAT WOULD MAKE ME WORRY?
I JUST THOUGHT IT WAS WEIRD
...THAT HE'D ASK ME NOT TO TELL YOU BECAUSE YOU'D WORRY
HUH?
OH, THERE'S THAT MAN I SAW AKIRA-KUN WITH...
AKIRA.
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

SHOCKED
IT IS UNFAIR TO TEST HIM LIKE THIS, IS IT NOT?
BUT HE IS VERY SHARP.
...AND HE NEITHER SHOCKED NOR WORRIED.
I AM SURE HE WILL SEE THROUGH THIS RIGHT AWAY...
HAHA... WHY DO I GET THE FEELING I'M BEING USED??
...I APOLOGIZE

HIS SECRETARY!
AND!
CHAIRMAN OF YOTSUBASHI FINANCE AND HOLDINGS!
OUR CARD
AH, SO IT'S YOU!
I AM A LONG-TIME FRIEND OF THE ICHIMURA FAMILY I'VE KNOWN THEM FOR GENERATIONS
AND NOW, OF COURSE, AKIRA-SAN IS THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD
DRRRRR
DRRRRR
YES?
—I AM IN THE MIDDLE OF AN INTERVIEW PLEASE DO NOT COME.
YOU WILL ONLY BE INTRUDING
I'LL COME GET YOU RIGHT NOW
WHY DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?
WHERE ARE YOU?!
AKIRA-KUN?
IT CAN'T BE -
I AM FINE.
THAT IDIOT!
OH! SIR, THIS IS THE GENTLEMAN
HEY!
A-...

U-UM...?
ICHIMURA-SAN?
I'M AFRAID AKIRA ICHIMURA HAS URGENT BUSINESS HE MUST ATTEND TO
EXCUSE US!
SNAP
WHAT'S GOING ON?
NOW

SIR! YOU CAN'T JUST - !
I SEE. OKAY.

...WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS THAT WAY?
PUTTING ON A PLEASANT FACADE
OBEYING MY GRANDMOTHER'S BIDDING
ARE THOSE MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU THAN KEEPING YOUR PROMISE TO ME?
COULD IT BE... THAT YOU'RE STILL HOLDING A GRUDGE?
BUT YOU SAID -
WHENEVER I'D COME OVER HERE, YOU'D -
AND I HADN'T SEEN YOU IN TWO MONTHS -
DO YOU NOT YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY I DO ISUMI-SAN?

IT IS YOUR OWN FAULT ISUMI-SAN
AKIRA-KUN...
YOU WERE TESTING ME, WEREN'T YOU?
A FORMAL LUNCH MEETING? A SOCIAL GATHERING?
WHATEVER IT IS THE JIG'S UP
IT WAS MERELY AN INTER-VIEW
OH, PLEASE
FOR A WOMEN'S MAGAZINE
...
IT'S FINE! THEY WERE ABOUT TO LEAVE ANYWAY
IT WAS THE TRUTH!

WAS PANICKED ENOUGH TO HAVE AUNT PINCHED OUT THE SECRETARY WITH THE CHAIRMAN IN TOW!
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE A BIT MORE PANICKED
MAN, THAT WAS LOPSIDED!

ISUMI-SAN
WHAT IS IT...
...THAT MAKES YOU FEEL SO ANXIOUS...?
AND WHY DO YOU TEST MY FEELINGS?
...YES?

PLEASE DO ME A FAVOR AND DON'T WORRY ME LIKE THAT AGAIN
IT'S BECAUSE I DO...
THAT I'VE COME TO TAKE YOU AWAY WITH ME.
I UNDER-STAND
GOOD!
THEN LET'S GO EAT.
ISUMI-SAN
YES?
THERE'S THIS ONE PLACE WHERE I'M A REGULAR
I CAN'T TAKE YOU ANYPLACE FANCY, BUT...

SEA VIEW (EXTRA EPISODE)

"TATSUMI!

YOU HAVE A LETTER FROM KEI!"

"THANK YOU.

YOU'RE ALWAYS SUCH A BIG HELP, MICHIRU."

"...HAHA... YES, YOU'RE RIGHT."

WOW, HE'S GREAT.

"IT'S NO WONDER. KEI'S GOT REALLY GOOD PENMANSHIP. I'M ONLY GOOD AT SWIMMING.

"HE WRITES THAT HE GOT A GOLD MEDAL IN JAPANESE CALLIGRAPHY."

"...IF YOU WISH TO, MICHIRU...

...I'M SURE YOU WILL, ONE DAY."

"WHEN WILL HE BE HERE AGAIN? WILL I GET TO MEET HIM?"

BUT THERE'S NOT A DAY THAT GOES BY THAT I DON'T THINK OF YOU.

THOU OF THE BLOSSOMS TWO END

GRAB!
入学式会場
WHOA!
...
...
...

HE SEEMS SO UNSOCIABLE! KIND OF SNOTTY TOO
I THINK HE'S JUST PLAIN WEIRD
WELL, HE'S THE FRESHMAN CLASS REPRESENTATIVE, SO... YEAH
WHAT? HE'S THE TOP-SCORING STUDENT OF OUR CLASS?!
HE'S HERE...
TATSUMI

SEA VIEW (EXTRA EPISODE) END

AFTERWORD

FINALLY I'VE BEEN ABLE TO GATHER INTO ONE VOLUME THESE WORKS OF MINE, FILLED WITH SO M..NY FIRST-TIME EXPERIENCES.

WITH "...CLOSSOMS" I DROVE MY EDITOR TO TE..RS WITH THE SLOW P..CE OF MY WORK! WITH "SE..VIEW" I DROVE MYSELF TO TEARS, SLAVING OVER WHAT SEEMED LIKE NEVER-ENDING PAGES...ONLY TO FORGET ALL OF THE SUFFERING WHEN IT W..S OVER. ..ND I STARTED TO THINK OF THE NEXT NEW STORY. I THINK MY INABILITY TO LE..RN FROM EXPERIENCE ACTUALLY HELPED ME IN TH..T SENSE. THIS BOOK HAS BEEN COMPILED WITH THE HELP OF ..MASSIVE AMOUNT OF BLOOD, SWE..T, AND TE..RS FROM EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED ME.

..AND OF COURSE, MANY THANKS TO YOU THE READER

SPECIAL THANKS: H CHAN & A SAN & EVERYONE WHO HELPED ME SO MUCH AT SHOP A1

http://www.geocities.jp/Akano

Sea View

海の見える風景

KEI'S grandfather is a well-known architect, and the young boy cherishes every letter from his beloved relative...until the notes suddenly stop. Now, Kei must visit his grandfather's distant island home and solve the mystery for himself! Upon arriving, he meets the shy and aloof Michiru, a serious student at the school where Kei's grandfather once taught. Michiru may have the answers to Kei's burning questions—but will he cooperate? Can these two young men follow the clues and find their vanished hero?

SEA VIEW sets sail for uncharted territories, and you won't need a map to find plenty of hidden treasure! Good-natured Kei and quiet Michiru are as different as night and day, but their shared love of Kei's distinguished grandfather brings them together for the most challenging voyage of their lives. If they stick together and follow the twisting trail, the boys may even find that good luck and a special friendship are waiting just around the corner.

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